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THE LIBRARY
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LOS ANGELES



Anno Regni
A N N Æ
R E G I N Æ

Magna Britannia, Francia, & Hibernia,
S E P T I M O.

At the Parliament Summoned to be Held at *Westminster*, the Eighth Day of *July*, Anno Dom. 1708.
In the Seventh Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lady *ANNE*, by the Grace of God, of *Great Britain, France, and Ireland*, Queen, Defender of the Faith, &c.

And by several Writs of Prorogation Begun and Holden on the Sixteenth Day of *November*, 1708. being the First Session of this present Parliament.



L O N D O N,
Printed by *Charles Bill*, and the Executrix of
Thomas Newcomb, deceas'd ; Printers to the
Queens most Excellent Majesty. 1709.

Anno Septimo

Annæ Reginae.

An Act for the better Preservation of Parochial Libraries in that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*.



Whereas in many Places in the South Parts of Great Britain called England and Wales, the Provision for the Clergy is so Mean, that the necessary Expence of Books for the better Prosecution of their Studies cannot be Defrayed by them; And whereas of late Years, several Charitable and well Disposed Persons have by Charitable Contributions, Created Libraries within several Parishes and Districts in England and Wales; But some Pro-

vision is wanting to Preserve the same, and such others as shall be Provided in the same Manner, from Embezzlement: Be it therefore Enacted by the Queens most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in this present Parliament Assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That in every Parish or Place where such a Library is or shall be Created, the same shall be Preserved for such Use and Uses, as the same is and shall be given, and the Orders and Rules of the Founder or Founders of such Libraries shall be observed and kept.

And for the Encouragement of such Founders and Benefactors, and to the Intent they may be Satisfied, that their Pious and Charitable Intent may not be Frustrated, Be it also Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every Incumbent, Rector, Vicar, Minister, or Curate of a Parish, before he shall be Permitted to Use and Enjoy such Library, shall enter into such Security by Bond, or otherwise, for Preservation of such Library, and due Observance of the Rules and Orders belonging to the same, as the proper Ordinaries within their respective Jurisdictions in their Discretion shall think fit; and in case any Book or Books belong-

ing to the said Library shall be taken away and Detained. It shall and may be Lawful for the said Incumbent, Rector, Vicar, Minister, or Curate for the time being, or any other Person or Persons, to bring an Action of Trover and Conversion, in the Name of the proper Ordinaries within their respective Jurisdictions, whereupon Treble Damages shall be given with full Costs of Suit, as if the same were his or their proper Book or Books, which Damages shall be applied to the Use and Benefit of the said Library.

And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be Lawful to and for the proper Ordinary, or his Commissary or Official in his respective Jurisdiction, or the Arch-Deacon, or by his Direction his Official or Surrogate, if the said Arch-Deacon be not the Incumbent of the Place where such Library is, in his or their respective Visitation, to enquire into the State and Condition of the said Libraries, and to amend any redress the Grievances and Defects of and concerning the same, as to him or them shall seem meet: and it shall and may be Lawful to and for the proper Ordinary from time to time, as often as shall be thought fit, to appoint such Person or Persons as he shall think fit, to View the State and Condition of such Libraries, and the said Ordinaries, Arch-Deacons or Officials respectively, shall have free Access to the same at such Times as they shall respectively Appoint.

And be it also further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That where any Library is Appropriated to the Use of the Minister of any Parish or Place, every Rector, Vicar, Minister or Curate of the same, within Six Months after his Institution, Induction or Admission, shall make or cause to be made a New Catalogue of all Books remaining in, or belonging to such Library, and shall Sign the said Catalogue, thereby acknowledging the Custody and Possession of the said Books, which said Catalogue so Signed, shall be delivered to the proper Ordinary within the time aforesaid, to be kept or Registered in his Court, without any Fee or Reward for the same.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That where there are any Parochial Libraries already Created, the Incumbent, Rector, Vicar, Minister, or Curate of such Parish or Place, shall make or cause to be made a Catalogue of all Books in the same, thereby acknowledging the Custody and Possession thereof, which Catalogue so Signed, shall be delivered to the proper Ordinary, on or before the Nine and twentieth Day of September, which shall be in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and nine: and where any Library shall at any time hereafter be given and Appropriated to the Use of any Parish or Place, where there shall be an Incumbent, Rector, Vicar, Minister, or Curate in Possession, such Incumbent, Rector, Vicar, Minister, or Curate, shall make or cause to be made a Catalogue of all the Books, and Deliver the same, as aforesaid, within Six Months after he shall receive such Library.

And

And to prevent any Embezelment of Books upon the Death or Removal of any Incumbent, Be it also Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That immediately after the Death or Removal of any Incumbent, Rector, Vicar, Minister, or Curate, the Library belonging to such Parish or Place shall be forthwith shut up, and Locked, or otherwise Secured by the Churchwarden or Churchwardens for the time being, or by such Person or Persons as shall be Authorized or Appointed by the proper Ordinary, or Arch-Deacon respectively, so that the same shall not be Opened again, till a new Incumbent, Rector, Vicar, Minister, or Curate shall be Inducted or Admitted into the Church of such Parish or Place:

Provided always, That in case the Place where such Library is or shall be kept shall be used for any Publick Occasion for Meeting of the Vestry, or otherwise, for the dispatch of any Business of the said Parish, or for any other Publick Occasion, for which the said Place hath been Ordinarily used, the Place shall nevertheless be made use of as formerly for such Purposes, and after such Business dispatched, shall be again forthwith Shut and Locked up, or otherwise Secured, as is before directed.

And be it also further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That for the better Preservation of the Books belonging to such Libraries, and that the Benefactions given towards the same may appear, a Book shall be kept within the said Library for the Entering and Registering of all such Benefactions, and such Books as shall be given towards the same, and therein the Minister, Rector, Vicar, or Curate of the said Parish or Place, shall Enter or cause to be fairly Entred such Benefaction, and an Account of all such Books as shall from time to time be given, and by whom given.

And for the better governing the said Libraries, and preserving of the same, It is hereby further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be Lawful to and for the proper Ordinary, together with the Donor of such Benefaction (if Living) and after the Death of such Donor, for the proper Ordinary alone, to make such other Rules and Orders concerning the same, over and above, and besides, but not contrary to such as the Donor of such Benefaction shall in his discretion judge fit and necessary; Which said Orders and Rules so to be made, shall, from time to time, be Entred in the said Book, or some other Book to be prepared for that Purpose, and kept in the said Library.

And it is further Enacted and Declared by the Authority aforesaid, That none of the said Books shall in any case be Alienable, nor any Book or Books that shall hereafter be given by any Benefactor or Benefactors shall be Alienated without the Consent of the proper Ordinary, and then only when there is a Duplicate of such Book or Books; And that in case any Book or Books be taken or otherwise lost out of the said Library, it shall and may be Lawful to and for any Justice of Peace within

the County, Riding or Division, to Grant his Warrant to Search for the same, and in case the same be found, such Book or Books so found shall immediately, by Order of such Justice, be restored to the said Library; Any Law, Statute or Usage to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

Provided always, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend to a Publick Library lately Erected in the Parish of Ryegate in the County of Surry, for the Use of the Freeholders, Vicar, and Inhabitants of the said Parish, and of the Gentlemen and Clergymen, Inhabiting in Parts thereto adjacent; the said Library being Constituted in another manner than the Libraries Provided for by this Act.

F I N I S.

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